April 20, 1954 J. H. BISSON 2,675,696

CONVERTIBLE CEILING PLASTER PAN AND CARRYING DEVICE

Filed Sept. 15, 1950

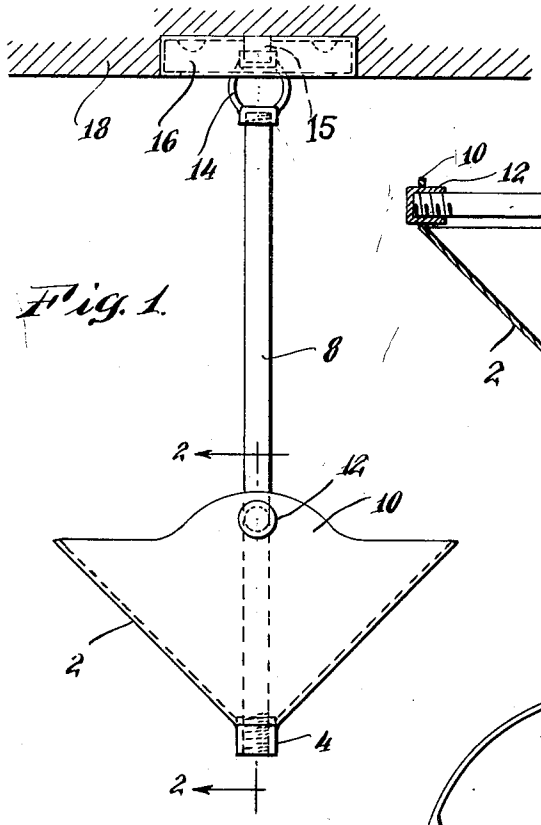


Fig. 1.

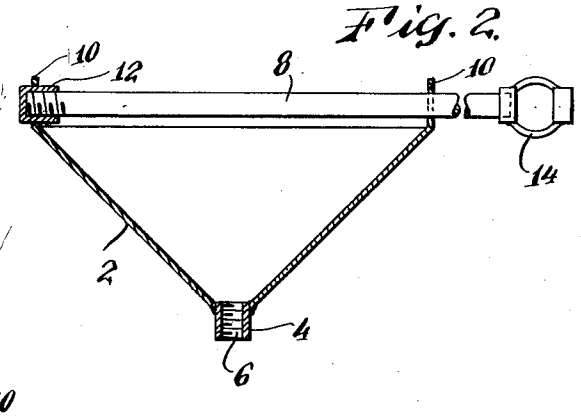


Fig. 2.

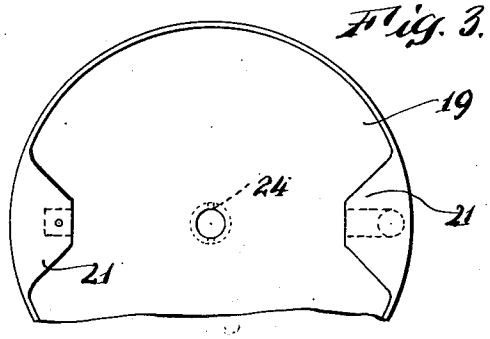


Fig. 3.

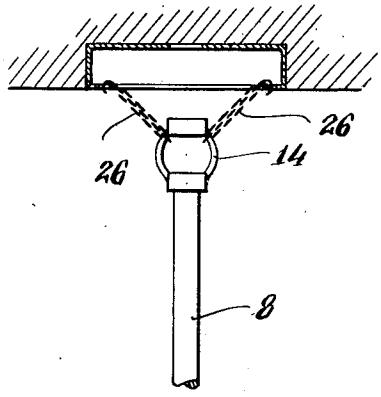


Fig. 5.

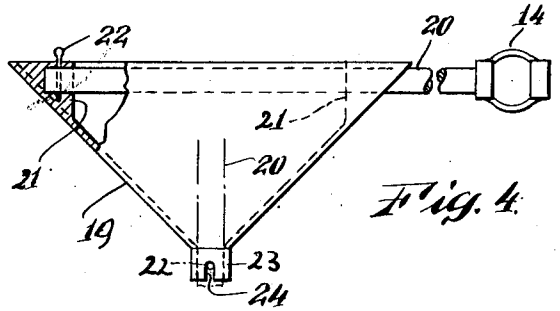


Fig. 4.

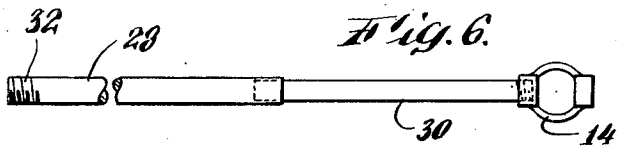


Fig. 6.

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CONVERTIBLE CEILING PLASTER PAN AND CARRYING DEVICE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 72—128)

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The present invention relates to improvements in the equipment for electricians who install electric lighting fixtures and the like in newly erected or renovated buildings.

In newly plastered ceilings, the ceiling plates or the outlet boxes, which have been set up by the electricians are generally clogged up with plaster by the mason as he uses this plate as a level to determine the thickness of the plaster that he has to apply. These ceiling plates are of two generally used types. By far the type that is most in use is the plate to which the fixture screws, and the other is a model to which the fixture hangs. Both models as set up by electricians are left completely open to the mason's trowels because short lengths of wires are left dangling or sticking out of the plate for the purpose of connecting the fixtures after the plastering job is done. When the electrician returns to connect his fixtures, after the mason has done plastering, he has to spread a canvas or papers or a sheet on the floor underneath the outlet boxes or ceiling plates, so that the plaster dust and particles will fall on these and not on a new floor as he picks out the plaster clogged plates with a screw driver or other tool.

One object of the present invention is the provision of a ceiling plaster pan, which can be attached easily and quickly to any outlet box and which has a shield extending beneath the outlet box for receiving any plaster particles, dust and the like removed from the outlet box, so that it will no longer be necessary for the electrician to spread any sheets or the like on the floor.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a ceiling plaster pan, which can be used as receptacle for carrying therein some tools and/or supplies while the device is not being attached to an outlet box, and also for carrying away plaster particles and the like accumulated in the device without having to empty the same into a carrying vessel.

Still another object is the provision of a device of the character described which is light in weight, and simple and inexpensive in construction, but which is also durable, sturdy, and well adapted to withstand the rough usage to which devices of this type ordinarily are subjected.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of

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parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

In the accompanying drawing a preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a preferred embodiment of my invention as it appears when it is used as a plaster pan;

Figure 2 is a fractional sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, showing the device as it appears when it is being used as a receptacle;

Figure 3 is a fractional top plan view of a modification of the shield portion of the device;

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the modification of Figure 3, showing the entire device as it appears when it is being used as a receptacle;

Figure 5 is a detailed fractional elevation of a modified form of attaching the device to an outlet box; and

Figure 6 is a detailed side view of a modification of a longitudinal supporting member.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring first to Figures 1 and 2, in its simplest form the device consists of a funnel-shaped shield 2, or inverted cone-shaped piece of tin or any metal or plastic material, to the center of which is attached a pipe or tube. The lower end portion of the shield 2 is perforated and a sleeve member 4, which has an internal thread 6, is extended therethrough and is attached to the shield 2 by means of welding, soldering, gluing, or the like. A longitudinal member such as a rod or a tube 8, is adapted to be extended vertically into the shield 2 and to have its lower end detachably secured to the center portion of the shield 2 by any suitable means. In the instance shown in Figures 1 and 2 the tube 8 has an externally threaded end portion which can be screwed into the sleeve member 4, as may be seen in Figure 1.

I prefer to provide opposite sections of the rim of the shield 2 with upwardly extending, perforated lug sections 10, and to extend horizontally through and secure to one of the lug sections 10 an internally threaded cylindrical member 12. This arrangement permits to use the tube 8 as a carrying handle by extending it through one of the lug sections 10 and screwing its threaded lower end into the member 12, so that tools or the like can be carried conveniently in the device, after the tube 8 has been detached from the member 4. Thus the plaster accumulated in the shield 2 can be carried away without emptying it from the shield into another container, which would cause dust and plaster particles to

fall onto the floor. The lug sections 10 also facilitate the grasping of the device, so that the operator can hold the same, after it has been detached from the ceiling, without immersing his fingers into the content of the shell 2 if the latter has been filled by using it on several outlets.

To the other end of the tube 8 there is secured, preferably by means of screwing, any suitable means for attaching the tube 8 to an outlet box or the like. A preferred form of said last mentioned means is shown in the drawing, denoted by the numeral 14, and consists of a cap member having a pair of oppositely arranged internally threaded cylindrical portions and a pair of rib portions connecting the head sections of said cylindrical portions to each other and keeping them in spaced relation to one another and having one of said cylindrical portions screwed upon one end of the tube 8 as shown in Figure 1, the other cylindrical portion of the member 14 is screwed upon the hickey 15, which is a threaded coupling for attaching a lighting fixture (not shown) to an outlet box 16 in the ceiling 18.

According to the modification of Figures 3 and 4, the shield 19, which preferably is made of plastic material or light metal, such as aluminum, or the like, is used in connection with a rod 20 or with a tube or the like, and has reinforced opposite rim sections 21. To one end of the rod 20 is secured a cap member 14, while the other end of the rod 20 has a cross-bore through which a cross-pin 22 is removably extended. A sleeve member 23 is secured to the perforated lower end of the shield 19 and is provided with slots 24, which can be engaged by the pin 22 when the shield 19 is suspended from the rod 20, as is indicated in dash-and-dotted lines in Figure 4. If the shield 19 is used as a receptacle and the rod 20 as a handle carrying the same, the rod 20 is extended through a perforation in one of the reinforced sections 21 into a bore in the opposite section 21, and through the latter as well as through the rod 20 is extended the cross-pin 22, as may be seen in Figure 4.

If an outlet box is intended for suspending therefrom a lighting fixture, the member 14 with the tube 8 attached thereto can be secured to a box as shown in Figure 5 by means of chains 26, or by means of wires, or the like.

Instead of a tube 8 or a rod 20 there can be used a pair of tubes 28 and 30 (Figure 6), which are slidable the one in the other, and the outer end of the tube 28 is threaded, while to the outer end of the tube 30 there is attached the member 14.

Since certain changes may be made in the above article and different embodiments of the invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the following claims are intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described, and all statements of the scope of the invention which as a matter of language might be said to fall therebetween.

Having thus fully described my said invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent in the United States is:

1. A device of the character described comprising a rod whose ends are threaded, a cap member having a pair of oppositely arranged internally threaded cylindrical portions and a pair of rib portions connecting the head sections of said cylindrical portions to each other and keeping them in spaced relation to one another, one of said cylindrical portions being threaded on one end of said rod, a shield having an inverted conical shape and being provided with a pair of opposed perforated lugs projecting from its upper edge, a horizontal threaded socket secured to the first one of said lugs, said rod extending through the aperture in one of said lugs and screwed into the socket secured to the first of said lugs to form a handle for said shield, and a vertical threaded socket in the apex of said conical shield to selectively receive the threaded end of said rod remote from said cap whereby said shield can be suspended by said cap member for use as a plaster catching receptacle.

2. A device of the character described comprising a shield having an inverted conical shape and a pair of opposed lugs projecting from its upper edge and provided with apertures, a horizontal threaded socket secured to one of said lugs, a rod extending through the aperture of one of said lugs and having a threaded end screwed into said horizontal socket to form a handle for said shield, and a vertical threaded socket in the apex of said conical shield to selectively receive the threaded end of said rod for suspension from a ceiling fitting for use as a plaster catching receptacle.

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